

- CERT Training Opportunities — see page 5
- If you have new contact information, let us know — page 17



*Training Today,
for Tomorrow's Emergencies*

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CITY OF RIVERSIDE CERT NEWSLETTER

Winter 2010

Volume III, Issue I

HAPPY NEW YEAR, CERT MEMBERS!

I hope you enjoyed the Holidays; spending quality time with family and friends is always nice. As the New Year begins, it's a good time to review your Emergency Plans with family, neighbors and co-workers, and to update any important information that may have changed. Also, encourage those around you to do the same.

As you know, our 2010 CERT Year End Meeting was on December 15th and the turnout was great! It was so nice to see so many CERT Members come out to join us and to get a chance to meet their families and friends. Also, join me in saying a big THANK YOU to the Riverside City Firefighters' Association for donating the use of their Clubhouse, the Orangecrest Banquet Club. What a beautiful facility. It was perfect for our meeting, and we greatly appreciate it!

At our Year End Meeting, we highlighted some 2010 CERT training activities and special events. We recognized CERT Members who had volunteered during the year by presenting them with a CERT Baseball Cap as a special Thank You for doing a great job!

Fire Chief Steve Earley thanked CERT Members and Staff for helping out when needed. The Riverside Fire Explorer Post #101 was presented with a Certificate of Recognition for their help in CERT Training

activities throughout the year. Division Chief John Martinez accepted on behalf of the Explorers.

We also had a chance to see what's coming up for CERT in 2011. Our plans are to provide training in HAM Radio Licensing and

Shelter Operations, and to organize CERT Teams according to Fire Station locations. But most importantly, at our meeting we enjoyed great conversation, delicious food, and tasty desserts. Santa even stopped by to help us celebrate, and the kids just loved it!

In closing, it looks like 2010 was very productive for our CERT program; we were busy with Training, Community Events, and Activations, so let's "Resolve to Be Ready in 2011."

Check our website often for upcoming training opportunities, events, and preparedness information at: <http://www.riversideca.gov/readyriverside/cert/>.

Sincerely,

Gina Perez
Community Preparedness Coordinator
Riverside Fire Department - Office of
Emergency Management
(951) 320-8112
gperez@riversideca.gov
<http://www.riversideca.gov/readyriverside/cert/>





Donna Arrechea, Raymond Cabrera, Sarah Carreras, Bethany Cary, Brooke Cary, Cathy Cary, Harold Cary, Shaun Cary, Robert Connerley, Adriana Curiel, Lofton Doyle, Sheila El Afiaoui, Sandy Flores, Chad Forsythe, Daniel Gregorio, Karen Harvey, Jeff Hurtig, Cathy Jensen, Richard Kash, Laura Mendez, Denise Morales, Terry Mortensen, Vernita Nickel, Al Pelino, Betty Ratliff, Olga Rodriguez, Luis Sanchez, Amanda Sauve, Rooda Scalf, Christine Spahr, Jim Sutterlin, George Thomas, Linda Tirabassi, Blair Tokin, Gordon Williams.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GRADUATES OF CERT CLASS # 34!



Instructor Captain Lisa Holloway teaches the fundamentals of CERT Team Organization.



CERT Members transport a victim during the final drill exercise, applying what they have learned.



During the final drill exercise, CERT Members discuss their next step.

CERT ADVANCED TRAINING

CERT courses are designed to help you protect yourself, your family, your neighbors and your neighborhood in an emergency situation.

CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency



CERT Advanced Training Course, Safety around Dog Searches, held on December, 8, 2010.

and disaster situations where citizens may initially be on their own when their actions can make a difference.

While you can respond to others in need without the training, one goal of the CERT program is to help you do so effectively and efficiently without placing yourself in unnecessary danger.

With CERT training, citizens learn to:



Haz Mat Safety Awareness, another CERT Advanced Training, held on November 17, 2010, is taught by Instructor Emergency Services Manager Anthony Coletta.

- ♦ Manage utilities and put out small fires;
- ♦ Treat the three medical killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock;
- ♦ Provide basic medical aid,
- ♦ Search for and rescue victims safely;
- ♦ Organize CERT Members and spontaneous volunteers

to be effective; and
♦ Collect disaster intelligence to support first responder efforts.



Safety around Dog Searches is taught by Instructor Riverside Police K-9 Officer Brad Smith. Rocko patiently participates.

CERT Advanced Training helps you to continue your training, becoming even more effective as a CERT Member. In addition, you get to know other CERT Members and become a true community of efficient volunteers. See page 5 for the CERT Advanced Training schedule this quarter.

FOOD, MUSIC, AND FUN AT THE CERT YEAR END CELEBRATION/MEETING



A line waits for Santa at the Celebration.



*Santa and Mrs. Claus (CERT Member **Bob Miller** and his wife, Mrs. Miller) stop by to help us celebrate.*



***Anthony Coletta**,
Emergency Services
Manager, and Firefighters
who dropped by.*

The 2010 CERT Year End Meeting at the Orangecrest Banquet Club was on December 15, 2010, and the turnout was great. Fire Chief **Steve Earley** thanked CERT Members and Staff for helping out when needed. **Anthony Coletta**, Emergency Services Manager, spoke about how valuable the CERT program and Volunteers are to the City of Riverside. **Phil McCormick**, Emergency Services Coordinator, was the Master of Ceremonies for the event. **Gina Perez**, Community Preparedness Coordinator, and **Norma Pagan**, Senior Office Specialist, coordinated the successful event.



Great turnout!

*The Riverside Fire
Explorer Post
#101 is presented
with a Certificate
of Recognition for
their help in CERT
Training activities
throughout the
year. Division
Chief **John
Martinez** accepts
on behalf of the
Explorers.*



SAVE THE DATE: CERT ACTIVITIES AND CLASSES

The registration form for most CERT classes is at <http://www.riversideca.gov/readyriverside/CERT/progr-CERT-schedule.asp>. Click on the appropriate registration form to the right.

CERT 20-Hour
Basic Course Training
Prepare family, co-workers, and neighbors for disasters with the CERT Basic Course.

Location: Riverside City Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

Dates: (must attend all three)

- **March 4, 2011, Friday**
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- **March 5, 2011, Saturday**
8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- **March 6, 2011, Sunday**
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

To receive the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Certificate of Completion, attend all three classes. Registration fee is \$15.00.

CERT Volunteers Needed
for CERT/Disaster
Preparedness Information
Booths

Call (951) 320-8112 or e-mail Gina Perez at gperez@riversideca.gov. Volunteer by staffing a display booth with family and friends for at least two hours at any of the listed events.

You perform an important function by helping spread the word about CERT/Disaster Preparedness at Community Events like those listed.

ASIAN PACIFIC LUNAR NEW YEAR Saturday, January 29, 2011

Downtown Riverside
Mission Inn Avenue and Lemon St.
8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Help set up the booth at 8:00 (the event starts at 10:00) and staff the CERT Emergency Preparedness Booth. Help a few hours and then enjoy the event!

8TH ANNUAL SENIOR CONFERENCE March 23, 2011, Wednesday

Janet Goeske Senior Center
5257 Sierra Street
Riverside, CA 92504

8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Help staff the CERT Emergency Preparedness Booth.

Advanced CERT Training

**CERT CARDIOPULMONARY
RESUSCITATION (CPR) AND
AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL
DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) TRAINING**
\$7.50 American Heart Assoc. Fee
February 12, 2011, Saturday

9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Riverside City Emergency
Operations Center (EOC)
3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS) TRAINING

February 16, 2011, Wednesday
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Riverside City Emergency
Operations Center (EOC)

January 2011

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

February 2011

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
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March 2011

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
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| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

Real incidents are chaotic, and CERT Members may have little or no experience in dealing with the chaos outside of drills and exercises. To bring order to chaos, CERTs are organized under the principles of the Incident Command System (ICS). This class provides tips for making ICS easier for CERT Members to understand.

FILLING AND PLACING SANDBAGS

Sandbags, when properly filled and placed, will redirect storm and debris flows away from property improvements. Knowing the correct way to fill and place sandbags is important.

FILLING

Fill sandbags half full. Sand is suggested if readily available; however, sand is not mandatory. Any local soil may be used.

For more durable bags with increased effective life, mix 10 parts of sand or soil with 1 part cement. The materials can be mixed and placed dry. After all bags are in place, a light sprinkling of water is recommended. This technique is only effective with burlap sandbags and will not work with plastic sandbags.

PLACING

Fold top of sandbag down and rest bag on its folded top (Figure 1).

It is important to place bags with the folded top toward the upstream or uphill direction to prevent bags from opening when water runs by them.

Care should be taken to stack sandbags in accordance with the illustrations (Figures 2, 3, 4, and 5).

Place each sandbag as shown completing each layer prior to starting the next layer.

Limit placement to two layers unless a building is used as a backing or sandbags are pyramided (Figure 2). Figures 4 and 5 show more than two layers for special circumstances.

LIMITATIONS

1. Sandbags will not seal out water.
2. Sand and soil filled burlap sandbags deteriorate when exposed for several months to continued wetting and drying.
3. If bags are placed too early, they may not be effective when needed.
4. Sandbags are basically for low-

flow protection (up to 2 feet). Protection from higher flows require a more permanent type of structure.

CAUTION



Figure 2. Pyramid sandbag stacking.



Figure 3. Direct debris from buildings.



Figure 4. Protecting a building.

Do not use straw or bales of hay in lieu of sandbags. They do not perform as well as sandbags and may be washed away.

Remember that sandbags can get heavy quickly, so do not overfill, or fill them too far away from where you want to position them.



Figure 1. Sandbag filling and placement.



Figure 5. Sliding glass door sealing.

FLOOD WATERS, DEBRIS, AND EROSION

During the rainy season, the most common drainage problem you may encounter is FLOOD WATERS.

The mere passage of storm waters across areas that would normally not be affected in small storms can be defined as flood waters, but IN SOME CASES FLOOD WATERS CAN CAUSE DANGEROUS PROBLEMS.

Here are some general rules to follow in most cases involving flood waters, debris, and erosion:

- ♦ Never underestimate the power of debris flows.
- ♦ Try to direct debris flows away from improvements.
- ♦ Avoid trying to control or confine the flows more than is absolutely required.
- ♦ Clear a path for the debris.
- ♦ Use your house or building as a deflector, if necessary.
- ♦ Always place protection to **deflect** debris, not to dam or stop it.
- ♦ Debris will often enter a building through windows - board them up.
- ♦ Remember to protect your most valuable property first - your home.
- ♦ Then consider what time and money are available to protect other less valuable objects such as swimming pools or landscaping.
- ♦ Try to install more permanent measures to protect your home.

In general, the problem of debris flows will exist for several years



after a burn. Sandbags usually last for only a year.

- ♦ Always work with adjacent affected property owners.
- ♦ Be prepared to sacrifice the use of portions of your property to achieve the greatest amount of protection.
- ♦ Avoid altering drainage patterns that could worsen conditions for your neighbors.

THANK YOU, CERT MEMBERS!

During the month of November, CERT Members were asked to volunteer their time to assist with some very important incidents in our City. We would like to commend the CERT Members listed below who were gracious enough to donate their valuable time to us on short notice!

The Fire crews at the Grassy Trail Fire expressed their thanks to the CERT Members **Larry Hernandez** and **Mario Rivera** who helped deliver their meals and water.

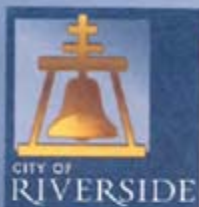
The outside agency Fire crews covering our 14 Fire Stations during Firefighter Nick Barrios' Funeral appreciated meals that were picked up and delivered. The CERT Members who performed these tasks are: **Art Santore, Diane Contreras, Fran Ferard, Jim Weaver, Larry Hernandez, and Regina Brown.**

Riverside Police Department was very grateful for the two days of help with setting up and taking down equipment during the Memorial Services for Officer Ryan Bonaminio. It couldn't have been done without the following CERT Members: **BJ Ratliff, Carla Zehrt, Cathy Jensen, Denise Sanchez, Ingrid LeMasters, Justin Kiehl, Karen Harvey, Larry Hernandez, Laura Mendez, Lorna Trillanes, Monica Crawford, Robert Walker, Ron Price, Ted Tansy, and Trudy Oliver.**

Again, **Thank You.** Your dedication and efforts are much appreciated. On the next page is a letter from Fire Chief Steven H. Earley, expressing his gratitude for CERT Members' support.

Riverside Fire Department
Office of Emergency Management
(951) 320-8112,

gperez@riversideca.gov



Fire
Department

December 16, 2010

CERT Coordinator Gina Perez
City of Riverside Fire Department
3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92506

Dear Gina:

On November 10, 2010 we laid to rest Engineer Nick Barrios, whose death was the result of a violent crime. Nick had truly touched every member of our organization and many others. The loss of a fellow Firefighter is one of the most challenging times any fire department can experience. Your support and contribution in honoring Nick strengthened us during this difficult time.

Then on November 16th, we laid to rest RPD Officer Ryan Bonaminio who died in the line of duty.

The help and support from you and the CERT volunteers at both funerals was invaluable. Please know how much we appreciate all that you and the CERT members did during this time very difficult time.

On behalf of the Barrios family, the Bonaminio Family and the entire City of Riverside Fire and Police Departments, we are extremely grateful to you and the CERT team for your part in honoring them.

Sincerely,

Steven H. Earley
Fire Chief





BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

There is something about winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths?



With a few simple safety tips and precautions, you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

- ♦ Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from heating equipment (e.g., the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater).
- ♦ Have a 3-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.

- ♦ Never use your oven to heat your home.
- ♦ Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment

according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.

- ♦ Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- ♦ Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.

- ♦ Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- ♦ Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- ♦ Test smoke alarms monthly.

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February.



www.nfpa.org/education

NFPA

Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

HEATING EQUIPMENT SMARTS

- ♦ Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation.
- ♦ All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.
- ♦ Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning.
- ♦ If you smell gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.



CARBON MONOXIDE - SILENT KILLER

Winter months are here.

As the mercury levels dip, damaged or poorly maintained heating equipment can be used and cars may



be warming up in the garage. There may be a lack of ventilation in the home with windows closed for the winter. Generators may be used when electricity is out due to a winter storm. **THESE PRACTICES ARE DANGEROUS.**

Any fuel-burning heating equipment (e.g., fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, space or portable heaters), portable generators, and chimneys can produce carbon monoxide (CO). Using a gas stove for heat can cause CO fumes to fill the home. A vehicle running inside a garage is a danger zone for poisonous CO that can also fill the home.

Often called a silent killer, CO is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels, such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, and oil burn incompletely.

CO enters the body through breathing. CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning, and other illnesses. Some symptoms include shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness, or headaches.

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, but infants, pregnant women, and people with physical conditions

that limit their ability to use oxygen, such as emphysema, asthma or heart disease, can be more severely affected by low concentrations of CO than healthy adults. High levels of CO can be fatal for anyone, causing death within minutes. The goal of the Riverside Fire Department is to reduce the number of carbon monoxide incidents in the City of Riverside.

- ♦ Install CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of accumulating CO.
- ♦ Have your heating equipment inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- ♦ Always remove a vehicle from the garage when it is running.
- ♦ **Never use a range or oven to heat the home.**
- ♦ Portable generators should be operated in well ventilated locations, outdoors away from all doors, windows, and vent openings.
- ♦ Install Co alarms in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- ♦ CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and CO alarms.

High levels of CO can be fatal for anyone, causing death within minutes.

- ♦ Test CO alarms at least once a month.
- ♦ If your CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location (outdoors or by an open window or door) and call 9-1-1 or the fire department. Remain at

the fresh air location until emergency personnel say it is okay.

- ♦ If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other trouble indicators.

The **Riverside Fire Department- Office of Emergency Management** wants everyone to be warm and safe this winter. Make sure your home has CO alarms. For more about CO alarms visit www.nfpa.org.

CERT MEMBERS SUPPORT THE MEMORIAL SERVICE OF RIVERSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINEER NICK BARRIOS



*Engineer Nick Barrios in his gear.
Source: Riverside City Firefighters' Association.*

CERT Members **Art Santore**, **Larry Hernandez**, **Regina Brown**, **Fran Ferard**, **Diane Contreras**, and **Jim Weaver** were activated November 10, 2010, to assist with pick up and delivery of meals to 14 Fire Stations during the Memorial Service for Riverside Fire Department Engineer Nick Barrios. This made it possible for the Riverside Fire Department to attend the Service.

*Riverside Fire Department
Engineer Nick Barrios*



*Nick
Barrios at
work.*

*Source:
California
State
Firefighters'
Association.*



Fire stations across the city flew the American flag and a purple and black Fire Department mourning flag at half-staff in remembrance of Nick Barrios. He worked as an engineer at Riverside Fire Station 14 off Central Avenue in Canyon Crest.

CERT MEMBERS CALLED INTO ACTION FOR GRASSY TRAIL FIRE, NOVEMBER 3 AND 4, 2010

A handful of residents were evacuated from homes threatened by a fire that started near the 5400 block of Grassy Trail Drive. It flared up in the Santa Ana River bottom near Martha McLean-Anza Narrows Park in Riverside. No homes were damaged. Winds picked up embers from the main fire and dropped them in surrounding areas; fire crews quickly doused spot fires as well.

*After hours of
fighting the
stubborn brush
fire,
firefighters
come in for
hydration and
food.*



*CERT Members **Mario Rivera Jr.** and **Larry Hernandez** assist with hydrating and feeding fire crews, restricting entry access to command post area, and with others tasks as needed. Great job!*

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR OFFICER BONAMINIO - CERT IS THERE



*Riverside Police Officer
Ryan Bonaminio*



CERT Members Robert Walker, Denise Sanchez, and Laura Mendez help set up chairs, tables, and equipment for the Memorial Service of Officer Bonaminio.

CERT Members were activated on November 15 and 16, 2010, for the Nov 16, 2010 Memorial Services for Police Officer Ryan Bonaminio. CERT Members helped out the day before and the day of the Services with various tasks and assignments. Not pictured here are CERT Members **Trudy Oliver, Ingrid LeMasters, Lorna Trillanes, Monica Crawford, and Karen Harvey.**

Thanks to all CERT Members who helped. Your work is greatly appreciated.



Left and around the table: CERT members Cathy Jensen, Larry Hernandez, Robert Walker, Ron Price, Justin Kiehl, Carla Zehrt, Denise Sanchez, Laura Mendez, Ted Tansey, and BJ Ratliff.

SENIORS AND KIDS GIVING THE GIFT OF GREEN AT WHITE PARK, OCTOBER 2, 2010



CERT Volunteer Ted Tansy helps out at the CERT Emergency Preparedness Booth.



CERT Volunteers Angel Sanchez, Bob Liebe, and Gina Perez, the CERT Community Preparedness Coordinator, at the CERT Emergency Preparedness Booth..

THE GREAT CALIFORNIA SHAKEOUT

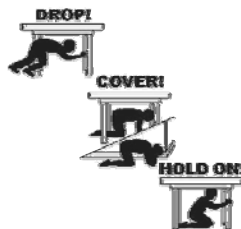
The Great California Shakeout, the annual statewide earthquake drill, occurred at 10:21 a.m. on 10/21. Millions of people across the state took 45 seconds to DROP, COVER, AND HOLD ON in a secure spot, as if a 7.8-magnitude earthquake were knocking things around. Emergency responders, schools, government offices and private citizens registered in record numbers to participate in this year's drill.



CERT City Employee Anna Hauldren practices Drop, Cover and Hold On during the Great ShakeOut Drill on Oct. 21, 2010.



Riverside Fire Department participates in The Great California ShakeOut.



For more information on earthquake preparedness, visit www.shakeout.org.

CERT AT 50 AND BETTER GOESKE CENTER HEALTH AND SAFETY FAIR, OCT 20, 2010



A vehicle extraction is performed by the Riverside Fire Department Engine 10 and Rescue 3 in the Mock Disaster Scenario.



Left to right: Members Carol Blake, Barbara Nelson, Gina Perez (CERT Community Preparedness Coordinator), Bob Liebe, Angel Sanchez, Ted Tansy.

The CERT Emergency Preparedness Booth was active at the **50 & Better Goeske Center Health & Safety Fair** on October 20, 2010. The theme was Disaster Preparedness, and a Mock Disaster Rescue Scenario was staged with Fire, Police, and AMR units. The CERT Booth distributed 252 free Smoke Detectors.

Riverside Fire Explorer Post #101 assist as victims during the Mock Disaster Scenario.

Members not shown: Fran Ferard, Larry Hernandez, and Julie and Leon Strife.



CERT Volunteer Monica Crawford prepares victims with her moulage (realistic injury simulation) expertise. Thanks Monica!



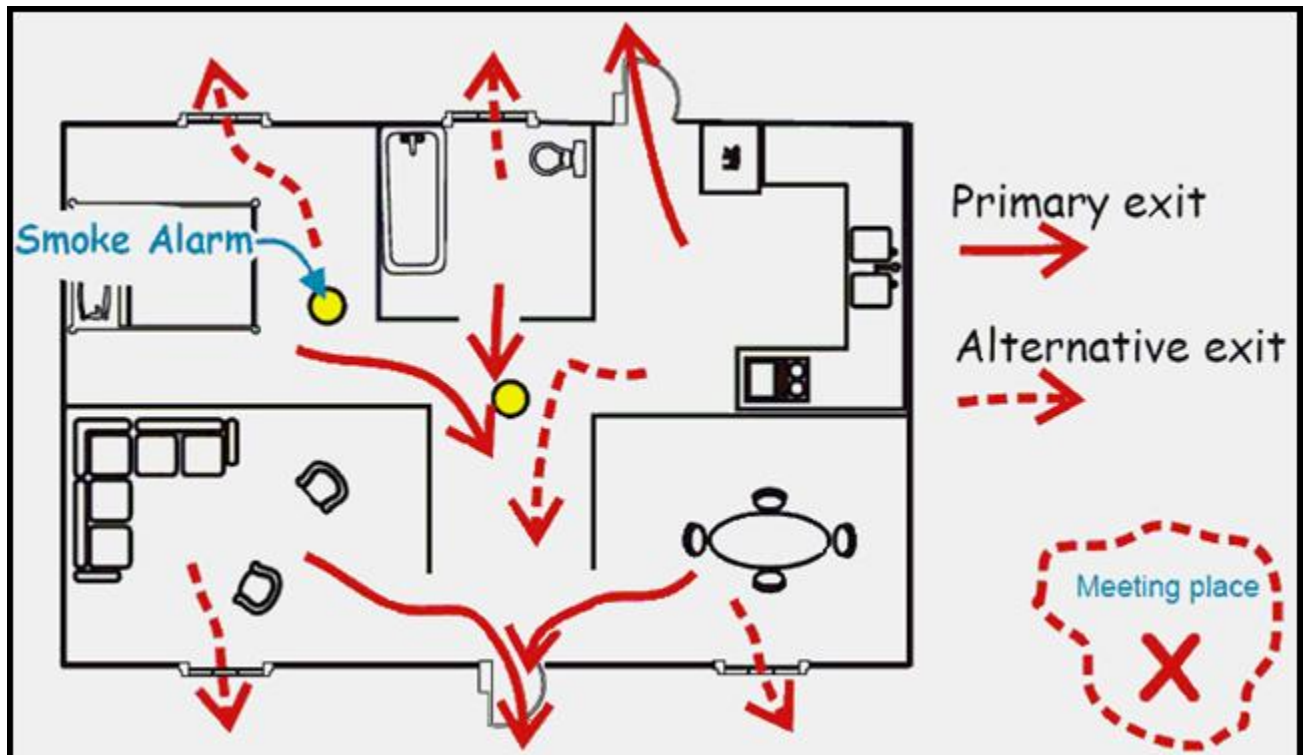
Riverside Fire Department Engine 10 and Rescue 3 participate in the Mock Disaster Scenario by rescuing a "victim."



SAFE WITH HOME FIRE ESCAPE DRILLS

To begin developing a home fire escape plan with all members of your family, draw a map of your home. You can download *How to Make a Fire Escape Plan* at www.nfpa.org/homeescape to get started, or simply make a map on a piece of paper. Then use this checklist to make sure your escape plan includes all the following elements needed to ensure your household is safe from fire:

- ♦ I have made a **map** of our home indicating all windows and doors that can be used to get outside if the smoke alarm sounds.
- ♦ **All members** of my household have walked through the home with me to identify two ways out of each room.
- ♦ The home fire escape plan includes **two ways out** of every room in the home (usually a door and a window).
- ♦ All ways out of each room and the home are **clear, free of clutter** and can be opened easily.
- ♦ Security bars on doors and windows have a **quick-release** device so they can be used to get outside in case of a fire.
- ♦ There is a **meeting place** (a tree, neighbor's home, street light) outside in front of our home where everyone knows to meet upon exiting.
- ♦ Our **house number** can be clearly seen from the street.
- ♦ Our plan includes the local emergency **telephone number** (or 9-1-1) to be contacted immediately upon leaving the home.
- ♦ There are working **smoke alarms** in all required locations throughout our home; there's at least one on every level of the home (including the basement), inside all bedrooms, and outside each sleeping area.
- ♦ We all know what the smoke alarm **sounds** like, and what to do when we hear it.
- ♦ We have **practiced** our home fire escape drill, and will continue to do so at least twice a year.
- ♦ Everyone in our home knows how to **get low** and go under smoke, in case we need to escape through smoke.
- ♦ We all know if the smoke alarm sounds, **get outside** of the home and stay outside, and understand that we should alert the Fire Department to any people or pets trapped inside.



CITY OF RIVERSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The City of Riverside Volunteer program currently hosts a vibrant group of volunteers who contribute their time, talent, and efforts throughout various City Departments. The Volunteer Program gives citizens an opportunity to learn about City government operations and provides for a mutual partnership between City staff and the Community while building the City's resources.

CERT Member and Fire Department Volunteer Felicia Bradfield was selected as the 2010 Volunteer of the Year for the Riverside Fire Department.



CERT Member Felicia Bradfield accepts a certificate from Riverside Mayor Ronald O. Loveridge and Deputy Chief Oran Pentz.

On December 7, 2010, Felicia, along with Volunteers from other City Departments, were honored at a Reception held in the Mayor's Ceremonial Room. Later that evening the Volunteers were also recognized at the City Council Meeting.



On a personal note: I am extremely grateful for the opportunity given me to work on this newsletter.

Thank you!

Felicia

Felicia was selected for her valuable contribution and distinguished service to the Riverside Fire Department -Office of Emergency Management as editor and contributor to the CERT Newsletter.

Felicia completed her CERT Training in October 2006 and in December 2008 she was hired as a Volunteer for the Fire Department assigned to the Office of

Emergency Management. With Felicia's help, in April 2009, the first CERT Newsletter was published.

The Newsletter provides information regarding CERT training activities and also serves as a great resource for Disaster Preparedness information. The Newsletter is sent out quarterly to over 500 Riverside CERT Members and to Emergency Services Personnel throughout the State.

Between her commitments serving as a Technical Sergeant in

the US Air Force, Air National Guard, 163d Reconnaissance Wing at March Air Reserve Base and CEO of her own environmental planning consulting firm, Felicia manages to make time to volunteer for the Fire Department. To date, Felicia has contributed 170 hours.

We are very proud of our CERT Newsletter; it has even been recognized as one of the BEST in the State! We are so grateful for all the hard work that Felicia does for us.

Thank you Felicia; congratulations on being selected our Volunteer of the Year!

**CITY OF RIVERSIDE
COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY
RESPONSE
TEAM**

City of Riverside
Fire Department
Office of Emergency
Management

Phone: 951-320-8100
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Local website:
www.readyriverside.com

National website:
www.citizencorps.gov

Executive Editor:
Anthony Coletta,
Emergency Services
Manager

Editor:
Felicia A. Bradfield,
CERT Volunteer



CERT MEMBERS ARE IMPORTANT TO THE COMMUNITY

Positive Changes

As a CERT Member, you are part of positive changes in your community. Volunteering is an important part of the CERT experience. CERT Member volunteers convey a sense of achievement and motivation, which ultimately is generated from the desire and enthusiasm to help. The positive changes seen in the community as a result of CERT volunteers can also bring about positive change in the CERT Member.

You are Needed

As you look over this edition of the *City of Riverside CERT Newsletter*, you will see plenty of instances where CERT Members are needed to help the community. Your skills are very important and much appreciated.

CERT Members often will receive emails requesting volunteer help. Please make sure that your email address is correct. Call 951.320.8100 or send an email to rivcitycert@riversideca.gov and update your contact information.

Advanced Classes

Make sure to take advantage of advanced CERT classes (page 5) to hone your skills and keep up with CERT knowledge. This quarter, you can learn about cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) on February 12, and the Incident Command System (ICS) on February 16.

Have You Been With CERT More than 5 Years?

Disaster Service Worker forms signed at the time of CERT Training **EXPIRE** AT 5 YEARS. A new Disaster Service Worker signed form is required before CERT members can participate in any training activities or events.

If it's been 5 years since your Basic Course, contact Norma Pagan at npagan@riversideca.gov to complete a new form.

IMPORTANT

Have you moved or changed your email address or phone number?



Give us a call (951.320.8100)
or send an email
(rivcitycert@riversideca.gov)
and update your contact
information.

